

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for predicting service level in a utility computing environment having a dynamically allocated subset of computing resources from a set of available computing resources, the method comprising:

creating a resource profile corresponding to a the dynamically allocated subset of computing resources allocated according to a service level agreement;

loading a workload profile representing a demand profile for an enterprise;

simulating processing of the workload profile using the resource profile to produce a service level result, wherein the resource profile subset is modified during the simulation according to the service level agreement; and

generating a new service level agreement in the event the resource profile cannot process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to the service level agreement, wherein the new service level agreement will process the workload profile at the expected service level.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
comparing the service level result to the service level agreement; and

signaling whether the resource profile will process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to the service level agreement.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the subset of computing resources includes allocated processing resources and memory resources for a client account.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the service level agreement includes a base resource allocation, a maximum resource allocation, resource costs, and rules for dynamically reallocating the resources based upon workload demand.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the simulation is scheduled to run automatically at an off-peak time.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a cost associated with meeting the ~~modified~~ new service level agreement.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the resource profile includes a communication bandwidth allocation.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising comparing the workload profile to a second workload profile representing an actual demand profile for a second client account;

wherein the simulating is based upon a result of the comparison.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the workload profile includes scheduling information and the simulation step incorporates the scheduling information in the processing.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the workload profile includes information corresponding to one or both of prioritization of resources and importance of specific resources.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the workload profile is loaded from a configuration file.

13. (Currently amended) A system for simulating service in a utility computing environment having a first service level agreement to service the demands of an enterprise using a dynamically allocated subset of computing resources from a set of available computing resources, comprising:

an allocated subset of the set of computing resources;

logic for loading a workload profile representing a hypothetical demand profile
for a client account;

logic for simulating processing of the workload profile, wherein the workload profile is based upon actual, measured data, using the allocated subset of the set of available computing resources to produce a service level result;
logic for modifying the allocated subset of the available computing resources based upon the service level result; and
logic for generating a new service level agreement in the event ~~a~~ the simulation produced by the simulation logic cannot process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to the first service level agreement, wherein the new service level agreement will process the workload profile at the expected service level.

14. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, further comprising:

logic for comparing the service level result to a second service level agreement;
and
logic for signaling whether or not ~~a result produced by the simulated processing~~ modified, allocated subset of the available computing resources will process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to the second service level agreement.

15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the ~~resource-profile~~ set of available computing resources comprises:

processing resources; and
memory resources.

16. (Currently amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the ~~resource profile~~ set of available computing resources further comprises:

a base resource allocation;
a maximum resource allocation;
resource costs; and
rules for dynamically reallocating the resources based upon workload demand.

17. (Currently amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the ~~profile~~ set of available computing resources further comprises communication bandwidth.

18. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising logic for comparing the workload profile to a second workload profile representing an actual demand profile for a second client account;

wherein a simulation produced by the simulation logic is based upon a result of the comparison step.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the workload profile includes scheduling information and the simulation logic incorporates the scheduling information in the processing.

21. (Previously presented) A computer program product for predicting service level compliance in a utility computing environment having a service level agreement to service the demands of an enterprise using a dynamically allocated subset of computing resources from a set of available computing resources, comprising:

- a memory,
- a resource list, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, detailing a set of available computing resources;
- an allocated resource list, stored on the memory, detailing an allocated subset of the set of available computing resources;
- logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for creating a computer resource profile based upon the allocated subset of the set of available computing resources;
- logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for loading a workload profile representing a hypothetical demand profile for a client account;
- logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for simulating the processing of the workload profile using the computer resource profile to produce a service level result;
- logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for comparing the service level result to a service level agreement;
- logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for signaling whether the computing resource profile will process the workload profile at an expected service level corresponding to the service level agreement; and

logic, stored on the memory for execution on a processor, for generating a new service agreement in the event the computing resource profile cannot process the workload profile at the expected service level corresponding to the service level agreement, wherein the new service level agreement will process the workload profile at the expected service level.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the computing resource profile comprises:

processing resources; and
memory resources.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the computing resource profile further comprises:

a base resource allocation;
a maximum resource allocation;
resource costs; and
rules for dynamically reallocating the resources based upon workload demand.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the computing resource profile also comprises a communication bandwidth allocation.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21, further comprising logic for comparing the workload profile to a second workload profile representing an actual demand profile for a second client account;

wherein a simulation produced by the simulation logic is based upon a result of the comparison step.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the workload profile includes scheduling information and the simulation logic incorporates the scheduling information in the processing.